

To: Dunbar, Bill[dunbar.bill@epa.gov]
From: Gockel, Catherine
Sent: Fri 3/18/2016 5:44:44 PM
Subject: RE: ARM presentation

Thanks, Bill! What a nice note! The tensions are so high that we really need to be looking for positive and productive partnerships with the ag community. I am all for looking for creative solutions to address nonpoint source issues. I think that soil health and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation in the ag sector also present great opportunities for R10's ag program.

Are you involved with the work on Direct Seed and the Farmed SMART certification? The Clean Water State Revolving Fund has already invested ~\$25 million in low-interest loans in dryland ag in Eastern WA, and that has so many positive implications for soil health (i.e. carbon sequestration), using less fertilizer, keeping water on the field (it's like LID for agriculture), and dust and erosion reduction, etc. It's a win-win... and farmers make more money because they use less water, precision-apply their inputs, and use less fuel because they only have to make 1 or 2 passes with the tractor.

I'm just learning about EPA's work in the Willamette Valley and in Direct Seed, but feel that these would be really promising avenues for R10 to pursue. And we need to get the word out about the good work we are already doing.

Thanks and have a great weekend,

Catherine

From: Dunbar, Bill
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 10:18 AM
To: Gockel, Catherine <Gockel.Catherine@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: ARM presentation

Catherine – It's terrific you're doing this work...your thoughtful temperament and thorough, detail-oriented approach to issues is exactly what's needed here.

Let me know if I can be of assistance...I'm happy to help!

Best – Bill.

Bill Dunbar

Policy Advisor

U.S. E.P.A. Region 10

206/553-1019

From: Edmondson, Lucy

Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 10:06 AM

To: McLerran, Dennis <mclerran.dennis@epa.gov>; Dunbar, Bill <dunbar.bill@epa.gov>;
Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>; Murchie, Peter <Murchie.Peter@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: ARM presentation

FYI

This came in last night – an exchange between George Boggs and Catherine, who has done a great job of building a connection with the Whatcom CD. (among other great work as Acting Ag Advisor)

note second paragraph and reference to whatsupstream...

Lucy Edmondson

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From: George Boggs [<mailto:GBoggs@whatcomcd.org>]

Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 6:54 PM

To: Gockel, Catherine <Gockel.Catherine@epa.gov>

Cc: Anderson-Carnahan, Linda <Anderson-Carnahan.Linda@epa.gov>; Edmondson, Lucy <Edmondson.Lucy@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: ARM presentation

Thank you for this report. I do hope that you are interested in continuing as the R10 AG Advisor full time and that senior management appreciate your skill set and the opportunity its presents to pursue a new paradigm. The Willamette project is the way for EPA to make progress with agricultural nonpoint pollution. This is particularly so because of the very real limitations in authorities under CWA.

Unfortunately Lucy inherits an albatross from Tom. The Yakima study and, more recently, the "What's upstream" investment have erected a near insurmountable wall here in Washington. The pot will soon boil over. I forcast a very difficult and public brouhaha that will occupy the RA time in the final months of his and the Obama administration.

Your experience from the Ruckleshaus process and willingness to recognize that there

is a more productive and less combative way forward will be essential if there is any chance of rehabilitating EPA in the eyes of agriculture.

R10 should make the position full time and provide dedicated support. It is the largest land use with the greatest opportunity to contribute needed environmental services.

Thanks for you interest and enthusiasm. I too was pleasantly surprised and renewed from the presenrations. There is hope for the future with your contributions and those of like mind. Jana and Kerry are doing exemplary work. We need to replicate that over and over on every region.

The May meeting should be a good one. I hope they let you attend.

Cheers

George Boggs

Conservation is a complex multivariate choice...not an either/or decision.

----- Original message -----

From: "Gockel, Catherine" <Gockel.Catherine@epa.gov>

Date: 3/17/2016 3:44 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: George Boggs <GBoggs@whatcomcd.org>

Cc: "Anderson-Carnahan, Linda" <Anderson-Carnahan.Linda@epa.gov>, "Edmondson, Lucy" <Edmondson.Lucy@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: ARM presentation

Hi George,

Thanks for the note, and for this information. Very interesting meeting yesterday- I walked away feeling both hopeful and energized. I think the Willamette Valley work is a wonderful model for how EPA can have a good working relationship with the agricultural community (not to mention develop lasting partnerships and achieve environmental results). I love their approach of interviewing farmers about their fertilizer application, the link to soil testing, and that they are reporting the results back to farmers in a timely and meaningful way. Improving nutrient efficiency seems like a “win” for all involved, and I love the focus on quantifying the benefits of water quality conservation practices. I think their sensitivity to confidentiality (i.e. disconnecting the data from the farmer) has also been key to the success of this project. I was also quite interested to learn more about Region 9’s efforts on soil health. Very exciting partnerships.

I will be sure that Jana Compton is aware of Nichole’s ARM presentation and will check in with Jill Fullagar. I very much enjoyed getting to visit with and learn from Nichole at last week’s Ag in a Changing Climate conference.

Thank you for your work on the FACA.

Sincerely,

Catherine

From: George Boggs [<mailto:GBoggs@whatcomcd.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 5:39 PM
To: Gockel, Catherine <Gockel.Catherine@epa.gov>
Cc: Anderson-Carnahan, Linda <Anderson-Carnahan.Linda@epa.gov>
Subject: ARM presentation

Hi,

It was great you were able to listen in on today’s FRRCC call. I would be interested to hear your

perspective on the presentations and discussions. Nichole Embertson, PhD will be delivering her final ARM report by the end of this month and then making a presentation to EPA and stakeholders in April. I'm thinking that this would be of interest to Jana Compton as we are interested in her good work. Jill Fullagar is making the arrangements.

Cheers

George J. Boggs, JD

Executive Director

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